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FEBRUARY 21, 1806.

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Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

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## An Act,

To suspend the commercial intercourse between the United States, and certain parts of the island of St. Domingo.



1    Sec. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That*  
3 all commercial intercourse between any person or persons resident  
4 within the United States, and any person or persons resident with-  
5 in any part of the island of St. Domingo, not in possession, and un-  
6 der the acknowledged government of France, shall be, and is hereby  
7 prohibited: and any ship or vessel, owned, hired, or employed,  
8 wholly or in part, by any person or persons resident within the  
9 United States, and sailing from any port of the United States, after  
10 due notice of this act at the custom-houses, respectively, which,  
11 contrary to the intent hereof, shall be voluntarily carried; or shall  
12 be destined to proceed, whether directly, or from any intermediate  
13 port or place, to any port or place within the island of St. Domingo,  
14 and not in possession and under the acknowledged government of

15 France; and also any cargo which shall be found on board of such  
 16 ship or vessel, when detected and interrupted in such unlawful pur-  
 17 pose, or at her return from such voyage to the United States, shall  
 18 be wholly forfeited, and may be seized and condemned in any court  
 19 of the United States having competent jurisdiction.

1     Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That after due notice of this  
 2 act at the several custom-houses, no ship or vessel whatever shall  
 3 receive a clearance for any port or place within the island of St.  
 4 Domingo, and not in the actual possession of France: nor shall any  
 5 clearance be granted for a foreign voyage to any ship or vessel, own-  
 6 ed, hired, or employed, wholly or in part, by any person or per-  
 7 sons resident within the United States, until the owner or the em-  
 8 ployer for the voyage, or his factor or agent, with the master, shall  
 9 give bond to the United States, in a sum equal to the value of the  
 10 vessel and of her cargo; with condition that the ship or vessel, for  
 11 which a clearance shall be required, is destined to some port or place  
 12 without the limits of such part of the island of St. Domingo, as shall  
 13 not be in the actual possession and under the acknowledged govern-  
 14 ment of France, and during the intended voyage shall not be volun-  
 15 tarily carried, or permitted to proceed, whether directly, or from  
 16 any intermediate port or place, to any port or place within such part  
 17 of the island of St. Domingo, as shall not be in the actual possession  
 18 and under the acknowledged government of France: and in case of  
 19 being forced by any casualty into any port or place hereby inter-  
 20 dicted, shall not, at any such port or place, voluntarily sell, deliver,  
 21 or unlade any part of such cargo, except so much as may be abso-

22 lutely necessary to defray the expenses requisite to enable such  
 23 vessel to proceed on her intended voyage ; and generally, that such  
 24 ship or vessel, whilst on such voyage, shall not be employed in any  
 25 traffic or commerce, with or for any person resident within any part  
 26 of the island of St. Domingo, not in the actual possession, and under  
 27 the acknowledged government of France.

1   Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all penalties and forfei-  
 2   tures incurred by force of this act, and which may be recovered,  
 3   shall be distributed and accounted for, in the manner prescribed by  
 4   the act, entitled “ An act to regulate the collection of duties on im-  
 5   ports and tonnage;” passed on the 2d day of March, 1799, and may  
 6   be mitigated or remitted in the manner prescribed by the act, entitled  
 7   “ An act to provide for mitigating or remitting the forfeitures, penal-  
 8   ties, and disabilities, accruing in certain cases therein mentioned;”  
 9   passed the 3d of March, 1797, and made perpetual by an act  
 10   passed the 11th of February, 1800.

1   Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall continue  
 2   and be in force for one year, and no longer.

1   Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That at any time after the  
 2   passing of this act, it shall be lawful for the President of the United  
 3   States, if he shall deem it expedient, and consistent with the interest  
 4   of the United States, by his order, to remit and discontinue the re-  
 5   straints and prohibitions on the commerce aforesaid.

*February 20th, 1806.*

Read the third time, and passed the Senate.

Attest,

SAMUEL A. OTIS, *Secretary.*